

Meeting Minutes
Meeting of October 30, 2008

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, October 30, 2008, in Hearing Room One, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Daniel F. Caruso at 2:10 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Judge Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
Edward S. Wilensky
James J. Murphy, Jr.

Colin C. Tait
Vice Chairman
Barbara Currier Bell
Philip T. Ashton

Council Members Absent:

Gerald J. Heffernan
(designee for Commissioner Downes)

Brian Golembiewski
(designee for Commissioner McCarthy)

Staff Members Present:

Robert L. Marconi
Assistant Attorney General
S. Derek Phelps
Executive Director
Fred O. Cunliffe
Supervising Siting Analyst

Robert D. Mercier
Siting Analyst
David Martin
Siting Analyst
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst
Melanie Bachman
Staff Attorney

Staff Members Absent:

Christina Walsh
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Carriann Mulcahy

Minutes of October 16, 2008.

Mr. Wilensky moved to approve the minutes of October 16, 2008, seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch abstaining.

DOCKET NO. 311 – Northeast Utilities Service Company, on behalf of The Connecticut Light and Power Company (CL&P) Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of the proposed Wilton 35A Substation at 53 Old Danbury Road in the Town of Wilton. Revision to Development and Management Plan.

Mr. Murphy moved to table this item, seconded by Mr. Ashton. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 346 - Implementation of Section 8 and Section 54 of Public Act No. 07-242 An Act Concerning Electricity and Energy Efficiency. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the intervenor status for Environmental Energy Solutions, seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 363 – Crown Communications Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 258 Ridge Road, Madison, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion and Decision and Order.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order, seconded by Mr. Wilensky. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Caruso requested a written vote on the record with Mr. Murphy, Dr. Bell, Mr. Tait, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Wilensky, Mr. Lynch and Chairman Caruso in favor of the proposed telecommunications facility.

DOCKET NO. 364 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a new bulk-power 115-kV to 23-kV substation located at 325 Waterford Parkway North, Waterford, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Caruso polled the Council members with Mr. Ashton, Mr. Wilensky, Dr. Bell, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Tait in favor of granting a Certificate for the proposed substation, with Mr. Lynch abstaining.

Chairman Caruso directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

DOCKET NO. 365 - Optasite Towers LLC and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 39 Maennerchor Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut.

Mr. Wilensky moved to remove this item from the table, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Caruso polled the Council members with Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Dr. Bell, and Mr. Murphy, in favor of granting a Certificate for the proposed telecommunications facility; Mr. Tait reserving his decision pending more information; and Mr. Ashton voting no.

Chairman Caruso directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

PETITION NO. 784MR – Plainfield Renewable Energy, LLC declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance, and operation of a 37.5 MW Wood Biomass Generating Project, Plainfield, Connecticut. Determination.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the draft Findings of Fact, and Determination, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch abstaining.

Mr. Wilensky moved to deny Friends of the Quinebaug River's Motion to Reopen; seconded by Mr. Tait. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch abstaining

EM-CING-057-080819 – New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC notice of intent to replace an existing telecommunications facility located at 36 Ritch Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut.

Mr. Ashton moved to remove this item from the table, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tait moved to acknowledge this regulatory exemption with the following conditions and recommendations:

Conditions:

- a) The flag shall be eliminated.
- b) The abutters shall be notified approximately one week prior to the start of construction.
- c) The tower shall be painted a dull grey color or galvanized according the City's preference, and the paint shall be maintained in good condition, if applicable.
- d) The green vinyl screening shall be maintained in good condition.
- e) RF field measurements should be taken to ensure compliance.
- f) Any interference that occurs shall be corrected.
- g) The tower and any equipment that is inactive for one year shall be removed within 90 days after the one year time period, and the site shall be restored to its previous appearance.
- h) Landscaping trees and screening plants shall be maintained.

Recommendations:

- a) Proper drainage should be maintained at the site.
- b) Signs located near the access drive shall be moved to the fenced compound if possible.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

TS-POCKET-099-081020 – Youghioghney Communications-Northeast, LLC d/b/a Pocket Communications request for an order to approve tower sharing at an approved telecommunications facility located at 88 Parsonage Hill Road, North Branford, Connecticut.

Mr. Tait moved to approve this request for tower sharing, with the condition that if a GPS antenna is attached to the tower, a signed letter from a Professional Engineer (licensed in Connecticut) stating the location of the GPS antenna and certifying that the tower is structurally adequate to support this additional loading shall be submitted to the Council prior to the GPS antenna installation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ashton. The motion passed unanimously.

TS-POCKET-106-080923 – Youghioghney Communications-Northeast, LLC d/b/a Pocket Communications notice of intent to modify an existing telecommunications facility located at Middlesex Turnpike/156 Bokum Road, Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve this request for tower sharing, seconded by Mr. Wilensky. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Matters

Chairman Caruso announced that the next energy/telecommunications meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2008, at 2:00 p.m., in Hearing Room Two. Other calendar dates were also discussed.

Mr. Wilensky led the Council in wishing Mr. Perrone a Happy Birthday.

Mr. Phelps discussed paper and photocopying saving initiatives for the office.

Executive Session – Litigation Strategy

No action was taken by Council.

Adjournment.

Chairman Caruso adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

DFC/cm